

**Brownsburg Community School Corporation  
Parent & Guardian Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)  
for Returning for the 2020-21 School Year**

**SAFETY/PREVENTATIVE MEASURES**

**Will masks be required?**

Yes. Masks will be required for those riding the bus, in serving lines in the cafeteria, in hallways and in most classroom situations when social distancing is not possible. There will be very rare situations when masks are not required and that will be at the direction of the classroom teacher for instructional purposes. Teachers may not permit students to go without a mask when district guidance says they should be wearing one. Examples of classroom scenarios:

- Students are at their desks working quietly – teacher may allow students to remove masks.
- Teacher is teaching a lesson and students are at their desks, but may be asking/answering questions and participating in a discussion – masks should be worn.
- Students are working on an activity with a partner or in a small group – masks should be worn.

**In addition to masks, how will students be kept safe on the bus?**

Drivers will also wear masks. Drivers will sanitize all seats and high touch surfaces between routes.

**If I want my child to wear a mask the entire day, will that be allowed?**

Your child can certainly wear a mask all day. Before COVID-19, we've had students treated for various illnesses that wore masks. As with most things in school, as long as it doesn't cause a distraction to others, it will be allowed.

**What kind of masks will be required and will they be provided?**

Masks will follow the same guidelines as clothing but there is no requirement for type as long as it covers the nose and mouth. Students should arrive at school or ready to board a school bus wearing a mask. BCSC will have masks available for those who don't have them, forget them, etc.

**What if a student refuses to wear a mask?**

Students will not be able to board the school bus, including after school activities, without a mask.

**What if my student cannot wear a mask for medical reasons?**

If there is a medical reason that a student can't wear a mask, that student will not ride the general education bus. School administration will request physician documentation and work on alternate plans for transportation.

**What will be Brownsburg’s plan to restrict visitors? Will family/volunteer visitors be prohibited?**

Many activities that bring visitors in the buildings (Back to School Nights, Open Houses, classroom parties, and before school gatherings of families) have been moved online or cancelled at least for first semester. Students cannot have visitors during lunch. Volunteers who have an essential function will be allowed as determined by the principals and will be required to wear a mask.

**How will lunches be handled differently to allow appropriate social distancing and health precautions?**

Masks will be required in serving lines and students will have assigned seats based on the cohort group of students they are with for a good portion of the day to minimize contact. Adjustments to the timing of lunch will provide time to sanitize tables and chairs between lunch periods.

**Why aren’t students eating in classrooms? What changes will be made to the cafeterias?**

Supervision concerns, food allergies, and additional cleaning needs are concerns that were considered. Students will sit in assigned seats with their class (elementary) in lunchrooms with additional space between them. There will be slight adjustments to the timing of lunch to provide time to sanitize tables and chairs between lunch periods.

**How are you encouraging students to practice good hand washing hygiene? How are you keeping classrooms clean throughout the day?**

Strategic procedures to increase handwashing will be scheduled into the day for younger students. Signage describing proper handwashing is displayed throughout the buildings. Each classroom will be equipped with sanitizing kits that include a hand sanitizer station, wipes, and one-step sanitizer solution.

**What about drinking fountains, how will they be used?**

Students will be encouraged to bring their own water bottles to be filled each day. Drinking fountains will not be available except for the bottle filler.

**How will classrooms be set up?**

Student desks will be placed in rows with no desks touching one another. As much space as possible will be provided, however it is impossible to have six feet of spacing in all situations.

**Will specials (art, music, PE) take place in the elementaries?**

Yes, specials will still take place, plus arts programs at the secondary level. All classrooms will be reorganized to maximize available space. Changes in scheduling will allow sanitizing of the classrooms to take place between classes.

**What additional safety precautions will there be in art, music, PE, library, & media center to avoid spreading the virus?**

In elementary, scheduling changes will allow for sanitizing of the area between classes and to avoid extra traffic in hallways. Desks are being added to art rooms and students will wash hands at the end of all specials classes. Elementary music programs will be moved to a pre-recorded online setting for at least the first semester. In all media centers, when students checkout materials, they will be held for 3 days before returning to circulation. [CLICK HERE](#) for more specific information about secondary performing arts protocols.

**Will middle school and high school students still be switching classrooms?**

Yes. Students will be required to wear masks during passing periods.

**Will students have outdoor recess?**

Elementary students will still participate in recess. Students will be assigned to a designated play area as a cohort/grade level group to limit exposure to other students. One grade level will play on the blacktop and one grade level will play on the equipment (rotating every other day such as a purple/white schedule). Students will wash hands after recess.

**What about when weather does not permit outdoor recess?**

During indoor recess, students will choose the activity they would like to use during indoor recess and stay with that activity for the entire indoor recess period. When indoor recess is over, students will wash their hands and/or use hand sanitizer. These activity items will be sanitized before the next use.

**Student Arrival – what is being done to eliminate groups gathering before and after school?**

Students in the hallways will be required to wear masks.

**What is Brownsburg’s intention to add physical barriers, such as sneeze guards and partitions, particularly in areas where it is difficult for individuals to remain at least 6 feet apart (e.g., reception desks)?**

Plexiglass dividers have been installed in kindergarten and preschool classrooms and in areas where instruction otherwise would not be possible (I.e. speech pathology, learning labs). All school offices in locations where the public may come in contact with staff also now have plexiglass dividers.

**EDUCATION OPTIONS – PARENT CHOICE AT HOME LEARNING**

**How do I request At Home Learning?**

If you do not request At Home Learning, it will be assumed that your student(s) will attend in person on July 30. Please make the request online by July 10 at 11:59pm, <https://www.brownsburg.k12.in.us/at-home-learning-request-Q1>

**What will At Home Learning look like on July 30**

[CLICK HERE](#) to view the original Parent Choice At Home Learning document

**Can my student enroll in At Home Learning and still participate in sports?**

At Home Learning is being offered for those with significant health concerns who are uncomfortable with the inherent risks of the in-person setting. Because those risks also extend to in-person activities like sports and school-sponsored extra-curricular activities, students who enroll in At Home Learning will not participate in in-person school-sponsored extra-curricular activities.

**Would the At Home Learning only cover core classes and not the extras like art and band?**

Please read the Parent Choice At Home Learning information. Core classes are offered for K-8 students. BHS students will move to Edmentum classes that provide classes necessary for graduation. Once students at BHS request At Home Learning, it will be the responsibility of the BHS Team to review the existing student schedule and match it as best as possible to the online learning experience. Some students will get every class they signed up for, others might have to substitute classes. Electives like performing arts (band, choir, orchestra, visual art) will not be offered in Edmentum.

**Will there be online Advanced Placement classes at BHS?**

Edmentum does not offer AP courses. Yes, Advanced Placement classes will be offered to students online if there is sufficient enrollment.

**Will there be Dual Credit courses?**

We are continuing to work with the colleges and universities offering dual credit courses. We do not have definitive answers from them at this time.

**Will a student still be able to earn an Academic Honors Diploma online?**

Yes, however it might be with alternate courses from what the student originally intended.

**If my student participates in At Home Learning, will they be able to join their class after the first quarter or first semester and pickup the lessons without interruption?**

In grades K-8, students will still be assigned to a classroom teacher or team and that teacher or team will grade their assessments so they can determine any gaps that need to be filled before they return to class. Students returning to school at BHS will continue the instruction in the class in which they were currently enrolled. They would not join a new class in mid-year.

**If we elect to send our children back to the in-person classes, will there be an opportunity to pull them back out to instead do the online learning option after classes start if the parent becomes uncomfortable with the environment?**

Yes, a student can move from in-person to At Home Learning after school starts. A student can join the in-person class after school starts as well, but will not be allowed to move back and forth at will. BCSC will allow for one transition during the 2020-2021 school year.

**How will At Home Learning look for students who have accommodations (IEP, Individualized Education Plans)?**

In general, special education accommodations will be made for each grade level in a universal design format. These services will be made considering our students who receive inside a general education classroom. The teacher creating these services may or may not be the teacher of record (TOR). The Special Education Department will work closely with families directly if their student has more significant needs.

## **RESPONSIVE MEASURES**

### **Will staff and student temperatures be screened upon arrival at school daily? And if a student is out with a fever should a test be administered before returning?**

No. A student who is home ill with a temperature (not suspected to be COVID) must be fever free (temperature less than 100.0 F) without fever-reducing medication for 72 hours before returning to school.

### **If a student has to stay home from school (with COVID or an unrelated fever or illness) can they take part in At Home learning while they are at home?**

Students who have committed to in-person instruction will have adequate time to make up missed lessons for excused absences like all other absences. At Home Learning will cover the same content as in-person instruction but lessons on individual days may be significantly different between the two. Students absent from in-class instruction will be provided with traditional make-up work that matches what their in-person classmates learned while they were gone.

### **What if a student is at school with suspected COVID symptoms?**

A student who could potentially have COVID-19 will be treated in a separate area and must be picked up by a family member within one hour. Please identify a plan for alternate pick up in the case you may not be able to be at school within one hour. This student cannot return to school without a negative COVID test result unless the following three conditions are met:

- The student has been fever-free without fever-reducing medication for 72 hours
- Other symptoms have improved (cough, shortness of breath)
- At least 10 calendar days have passed since symptoms first appeared

Keep in mind that there are many testing facilities that can administer a test ([\*\*CLICK HERE\*\*](#))

### **What if a student tests positive for COVID-19 and is symptomatic (fever, cough, shortness of breath)?**

This student may return to school only if the following conditions are met:

- The student has been fever-free without fever-reducing medication for 72 hours
- Other symptoms have improved (cough, shortness of breath)
- At least 10 calendar days have passed since symptoms first appeared
- OR the student has received two negative tests at least 24 hours apart

### **What if a student tests positive for COVID-19 and is asymptomatic (no symptoms, feels fine)?**

This student may return to school only if the following conditions are met:

- At least 10 calendar days have passed with no symptoms
- Has been released by a health care provider
- OR the student has received two negative tests at least 24 hours apart

**What if a student has had close contact (either inside or outside of school) to someone who tested positive for COVID-19?**

Close contact is described as more than 15 minutes within six feet. Anyone with close contact to the positive case will be contacted by the Hendricks County Health Department and more guidance will be given. Questions about close contact outside of school should be directed to the Hendricks County Health Department.

**Who will be contacted if a student tests positive?**

Brownsburg Community School Corporation would be contacted by the Hendricks County Health Department in the event that a student tests positive.

**What are BCSC's plans to ensure siblings/students with the same home address also do not come to school if a presumptive or confirmed COVID-19 case occurs within the household?**

The report of any positive cases goes to the Health Department in the county of residence and they direct the response of those in close contact with the positive case.

**If the number of positive cases rises within the school district, at what point will the decision be made to close schools? Is there a % or certain number that will lead to that decision?**

BCSC will follow the recommendation of the Hendricks County Health Department when it comes to the decision to close schools based on confirmed cases.

**What changes will be taking place inside school clinics?**

State mandated vaccinations will continue to be required with a student exclusion date of 9/8/20. If your child has a chronic condition which may mimic symptoms of COVID-19 (allergies, cough variant asthma, etc.) consider contacting your primary care provider now for documentation regarding the illness and clearance to return to school. The use of nebulizers in clinics is only recommended in emergent situations. Parents will be asked to provide a metered dose inhaler for use during normal daily activities if a student has asthma. If your child takes daily medications, clinic nurses encourage you to administer them at home whenever possible. If the medication is required during the school day, please send it with your child's school supplies if it is not a controlled substance (cough drops, over the counter medications, inhalers, etc). If your student's medication is a controlled substance (most ADHD medications, diazepam, narcotic medications, etc) and must be given during the school day, you will be required to bring the medication in to the building and wait in the office for the nurse. All medications require the proper form to be filled out and signed by a legal guardian, and are available on the school website. Clinic nurses encourage

students to bring unscented hand lotion and chapstick at the beginning of the school year to place with their belongings. Dependent on activity in the clinic, students may not be able to enter to get these items.

## **SECOND WAVE**

**Would BCSC consider altering the calendar in preparation for a second wave, along the lines of what Purdue University and some other universities are doing, and take a break from Thanksgiving to Spring Break? Would classroom parents have the option of moving to the online option at home?**

There are no plans to alter the school calendar.

**If BCSC experiences an outbreak warranting closure, will there be any days off or will the next day immediately be a virtual/e-learning day?**

It is likely that there may be a day or two needed to make the necessary adjustments, but a shift to At Home Learning for an entire school or the whole district should be underway shortly after a determination is made.

**If one Brownsburg school experiences an outbreak warranting closure, will all Brownsburg schools also close to start in-sync and/or as a pre-caution?**

BCSC will follow the recommendation of the Hendricks County Health Department when it comes to the decision to closes schools based on confirmed cases.